DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & SOCIAL SECURITY
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SUDBURY BOROUGH COUNCIL

- in the -

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY OF WEST SUFFOLK

ANNUAL REPORT

- of the -

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

- including the -

REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

- for the year -

1 9 7 1

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors
of the Sudbury Borough Council

I have the honour to present the Annual Report of the Public Health Services for the year, 1971.

I am grateful to the Mayor, Councillor W.R.Barker and Members of the Council, Councillor P.R.McQuhae, the Chairman, and to the Public Health Committee for their courtesy to me during this year.

I wish to thank also the Town Clerk, Mr.G.C.Mountstephen, Mr. A.J.Gould, the Public Health Inspector, and all other officers of the Council for their help to me.

Your obedient servant,

EDWARD KINNEAR

Medical Officer of Health

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MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Councillor W.R.Barker (Mayor)
Councillor P.R.McQuhae (Chairman)
Alderman S.W. Wood
Alderman R.G. Playford
Councillor H.B. Eady
Councillor W.C.Frankham
Councillor H.W.Banham
Councillor Mrs. R.C.M.Playford
Councillor R. Moulton

STAFF

Dr. E. Kinnear, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., Medical Officer of Health, (This officer does not engage in private practice but holds in addition the following appointments:-

Medical Officer of Health - Hadleigh U.D.C., Melford R.D.C., Cosford R.D.C., Thedwastre R.D.C.,

Assistant County Medical Officer, School Medical Officer, West Suffolk County Council.)

Mr. A.J. Gould, A.M.I.P.H.E., M.A.P.H.I., Public Health Inspector.

Mrs. A. French, Clerical Assistant and Typist.

GENERAL STATISTICS

(Figures in brackets through the report relate to the year 1970

Population	1971	1970
Registrar-General's estimate	8,280	7,960
Rateable value as at 1st April	318,923	£308,302
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	3,128	1,241
Area, in acres	1,834	1,834

VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births	Total	Male	Female
Legitimate	131 (118)	73 (58)	58 (60)
Illegitimate	8 (13)	5 (8)	3 (5)
	139 (131)	78 (66)	61 (65)

Adjusted live birth rate per 1,000 estimate population 18.5 (18.2)
(Area Comparability Factor 1.10)

England and Wales Birth Rate per 1,000 estimate population 16.0 (16.0)

Stillbirths	Total	Male	Female
Legitimate	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)
Illegitimate	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)

Deaths registered in 1970

Total	Male	Female
142 (178)	69 (72)	73 (106)

Death rate (adjusted) per 1,000 population 9.6 (12.5)
(Area Comparability Factor 0.56)

England and Wales Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population 11.6 (11.7)

Number of women dying in or in consequence of childbirth Nil (Nil)

Infant Mortality	Total	Male	Female
Deaths of Infants under one year			
Legitimate	3 (-)	2 (-)	1 (-)
Illegitimate	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)
	3 (-)	2 (-)	1 (-)

Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births 22.0 (Nil)

Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births 18.0 (18.0)
(England and Wales)

CAUSE OF DEATH DURING 1971
(Registrar-General's Figures)

ALL CAUSES	TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE
	142	69	73
Malignant neoplasm, oesophagus	1	-	1
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	1	1	-
Malignant neoplasm, intestine	6	2	4
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	5	4	1
Malignant neoplasm, breast	6	-	6
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	-	-
Malignant neoplasm, prostate	3	3	-
Other malignant neoplasms	13	9	4
Benign and unspecified neoplasms	-	-	-
Diabetes mellitus	1	1	-
Multiple sclerosis	1	1	-
Other diseases of nervous system	1	-	1
Hypertensive disease	1	-	1
Ischaemic heart disease	30	15	15
Other forms of heart disease	8	6	2
Cerebrovascular disease	38	12	26
Other diseases of circulatory system	3	2	1
Influenza	-	-	-
Pneumonia	6	2	4
Bronchitis and Emphysema	7	7	-
Other diseases of respiratory system	1	-	1
Peptic ulcer	-	-	-
Cirrhosis of liver	1	1	-
Hyperplasia of prostate	1	1	-
Diseases of musculo-skeletal system	3	-	3
Congenital anomalies	1	1	-
Birth injury, difficult labour, etc.	2	1	1
Symptoms and ill-defined conditions	1	-	1
All other accidents	1	-	1

PREVENTION OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Diseases	Total	Male	Female
Notifications received	97	44	53
Tuberculosis, respiratory	1	1	-
Tuberculosis, other	1	-	1
Scarlet Fever	10	5	5
Measles	78	35	43
Infective jaundice	-	-	-
Whooping cough	7	3	4

INFANT WELFARE CENTRES

The West Suffolk County Council provide one centre in the town.

The clinic is held weekly at the Health Clinic, Acton Lane, on Tuesday at 2 p.m. Welfare foods are also distributed from this centre. Two Health Visitors attend. A Medical Officer also attends on two sessions in the month.

A Child Developmental Clinic is also held twice monthly, by appointment.

LABORATORY FACILITIES

The Public Health Laboratory, Woodbridge Road East, Ipswich, under the directorship of Dr. P.K. Fraser, is always generous with advice and services.

Lincolne, Sutton and Wood Ltd., Norwich, provide analytical reports on water and foods.

HOSPITALS

ST. LEONARDS

This is a General Practitioner staffed hospital with visiting Consultants and Out-Patients clinics, maternity, general medical, minor surgical, some geriatric patients.

WALNUTTREE

The majority of these beds are geriatric. There is a physiotherapy department with some specialised equipment. Psychiatric and Opthalmic out-patients clinics are held.

FAMILY PLANNING CLINICS are held in Out-patients Department of Walnuttree Hospital.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

A.J. GOULD, A.M.I.P.H.E., M.A.P.H.I.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors
of the Sudbury Borough Council

I submit for your consideration my report for the year ended 31st December, 1971.

The work carried out during the year has been very similar to that done in previous years. There has been more emphasis on routine inspection of food premises, and on dealing with noise nuisances.

I wish to express my appreciation to the Chairman and Members for the interest they have shown in the work of the Public Health Department during the year. I would also like to thank Dr.Kinnear and the other Officers of the Council for their continued co-operation and support and Mrs.A.French, who has also helped in every possible way during the preceeding year.

A.J.Gould
Public Health Inspector

HOUSING

HOUSING

New Houses - Council

During 1971, 222 dwellings on Springlands Estate were completed and work on the development at the rear of Cats Lane comprising 41 units in three blocks was completed.

New Houses - Private

The progress of private building continued with 68 private houses completed.

Old Houses

Progress in dealing with sub-standard housing during the year is listed.

Type of Action	1971	Total since 1955
CLEARANCE AREAS		
Number of clearance areas declared.	-	18
Total number of properties involved.	-	245
Properties excluded from orders.	-	6
DEMOLITION ORDERS		
Properties demolished under Demolition Orders.	-	9

TIME AND PLACE MEETINGS

A number of properties were considered at Time and Place Meetings during the year with the following results.

CLOSING ORDERS MADE - 5 properties. Undertakings accepted to make property fit - none.

CLOSING ORDERS DETERMINED - 1 property.

REHOUSING

The chart below shows the fairly rapid increase of housing work being undertaken by the Borough.

From 1965 to 1971 the average number of families rehoused per year was 43, and the average number of people rehousing was 120.

	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971
Number of families rehoused	19	69	77	25	26	20	65
Number of new applications for rehousing received.	60	81	118	90	64	79	98
Number of persons rehoused.	48	170	187	67	110	55	201

The Council have now built 696 dwellings plus 386 on the Springlands Estate which have been taken over to date, and own various miscellaneous properties which are used for rehousing.

GENERAL

During the year eighteen informal notices were served and all properties were repaired following these informal notices.

Many other minor repairs were attended to after an informal visit or telephone call to the owner.

At the end of 1971 the number of applicants on the Council's Housing List was 240.

Numerous reports and visits were made on the accommodation occupied by applicants.

CERTIFICATES OF DISREPAIR

No certificates were issued during the year.

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

Progress continued with housing improvements during 1971. A much larger amount was paid under discretionary grants and standard grant payments continued at the same rate.

Many more applications for discretionary grants were being received particularly towards the end of 1971 and the works being put forward for grant aid were of a wider range than previously. This is no doubt because of the increased assistance available under the Housing Act, 1969.

STANDARD GRANTS

Year	No of applications	No completed	Grants Paid £.	p.
1959	4			
1960	7	8	796.	31
1961	11	4	560.	00
1962	16	13	1551	25
1963	16	9	1208	07
1964	7	12	1597	38
1965	10	4	498	18
1966	9	10	1458	34
1967	16	9	1357	97
1968	39	24	5107	97
1969	19	25	6223	05
1970	28	25	5583	00
1971	22	19	5511	00
			£31452	52

DISCRETIONARY GRANTS

Year	No of applications	No completed	Grants paid	
1959	22	8	1618	71
1960	10	12	2247	23
1961	10	9	1948	29
1962	10	12	2357	72
1963	5	7	1443	00
1964	6	3	746	99
1965	1	2	648	50
1966	2	1	197	51
1967	-	2	493	97
1968	4	4	1374	00
1969	5	1	200	00
1970	14	5	2895	00
1971	35	27	7293	00
			£ 23463	92

ANNUAL POST WAR DEVELOPMENT RATE

The following are the post-war housing development figures for the years 1947 to 1971.

Year	Council Houses	Private Dwellings	Total	Year	Council Houses	Private Dwellings	Total
					302	152	454
1947	24	6	30	1959	26	11	37
1948	27	12	39	1960	50	14	64
1949	30	2	32	1961	22	27	49
1950	26	8	34	1962	10	58	68
1951	18	5	23	1963	36	41	77
1952	30	6	36	1964	42	109	151
1953	29	14	43	1965	-	88	88
1954	62	18	80	1966	68	51	119
1955	10	20	30	1967	12	90	102
1956	-	28	28	1968	-	38	38
1957	46	11	57	1969	-	64	64
1958	-	22	22	1970	* 164	90	254
				1971	* 222	68	290
Total	302	152	454	Total	954	901	1855

* These were all on Springlands Estate

HOUSE INSPECTIONS

The following visits for inspection or re-inspection have been made:-

Improvement grants	342
Individual unfit	37
Clearance	-
Rent Act	6
Other	181

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

The weekly collection of domestic refuse continued during the year. The use of plastic refuse disposal bags increased steadily and has assisted in providing greater efficiency of the service.

The refuse disposal tip has not caused any serious nuisances and the daily covering of the waste was executed satisfactorily.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE

The water reclamation works continued to operate satisfactorily and samples taken generally gave satisfactory results, particularly after desludging had taken place.

SWIMMING POOL

The swimming pool was open from May to September.

Routine residual chlorine and ph tests are made at the pool and samples taken and sent to the Public Health Laboratory at Ipswich. No adverse results were obtained and the water was assumed to be of a satisfactory degree of purity.

WATER SUPPLY

The supply of water during the year was adequate. Frequent samples gave uniformly satisfactory results. The water is supplied by the West Suffolk Water Board and the character of the water is still very hard, with a very high figure for both temporary and permanent hardness.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

The Public Conveniences in Burkitts Lane have been in use throughout the year.

A certain amount of vandalism persisted throughout the year and constant effort was needed by the Borough Surveyor's Department to keep clean and usable the facilities provided and to minimise the damage being done.

The Public Conveniences in Gaol Lane are closed but those at the rear of the swimming pool in Belle Vue Gardens are still in use.

DISINFESTATION

Disinfestation by spraying of five premises was carried out during the year.

WASPS NESTS

During the year 206 wasps nests were destroyed by the Rodent Operator.

PRIVATE DWELLINGS - RODENT CONTROL

On receipt of complaint of infestation, premises are visited and treatment given free of charge.

BUSINESS PREMISES - RODENT CONTROL

Business premises are tested under agreement when found to be infested and all treatments are charged to the occupier.

AGRICULTURAL PROPERTIES - RODENT CONTROL

All agricultural properties were surveyed periodically and treatment carried out where necessary; charges on a time and material basis.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES

There are no Common Lodging Houses within the Borough.

INSPECTIONS

The following visits for inspections or re-inspections under various Acts have been made:-

PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS

Dwelling Houses	216
Offensive Accumulations	-
Dust and Effluvia	1
Ditches and Watercourses	-
Tents, Vans and Sheds	3
Drains and Sewers	142
Closets	6
Dustbins	5
Inns, Restaurants, Cinemas	216
Verminous Premises	2
Infectious Diseases	12
Petroleum licences	84
Water Supply	6
Swimming Pool	1
Noise	221
Sewage works	-
Home safety	-
Refuse tips	36
Cattle market	4
Public conveniences	-
Explosives	24

CLEAN AIR ACTS

Industrial premises	5
Domestic premises	-
Miscellaneous	-

PET ANIMALS ACT 1951	2
CARAVAN SITES ACT 1960	-
PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT 1949	
Rodents - Domestic premises	50
Rodents - Business premises	29
Rodents - Farms	-
Insects	150
Miscellaneous	-

FOOD

FOOD CONTROL

Inspection of food premises continued. Many small improvements were carried out after informal notice. These contribute in time to a general small improvement in standards at all shops. Some improvements were major in character and it is hoped to continue emphasis on few unsatisfactory premises.

UNSOUND FOOD

A large amount of food was found to be unfit. This is probably due to the increase in large food shops.

The following foodstuffs were examined at wholesale and retail food shops and certificates given when they were voluntarily aurrendered.

2209 tins	2874 packets	50 jars

GENERAL FOOD

4 loaves of bread
212lbs beef
50lbs pork
112lbs bacon

ICE CREAM

Thirty-eight premises were registered for the sale of ice-cream. Ice cream sold at these premises was one of the nationally-known products.

Nearly all the ice-cream is pre-wrapped.

PRESERVED FOODS

Seventeen premises were registered for the preparation or manufacture of sausages or potted, pressed, pickled or preserved foods.

MILK AND DAIRIES

The licensing of dealers in Sudbury is the responsibility of the West Suffolk County Council.

At present there are five registered distributors and six shop dealers in milk. These hold between them, one licence to deal in untreated milk, eight pasteurised and eleven sterilised licenses.

Sampling of the milk was carried out by the Weights and Measures Department of the County Council on behalf of the Health Department. Copies of sample reports received indicated that these were satisfactory.

RODENT CONTROL

The rat population increased here, as throughout the country. Regular routine surveys are carried out by the Rodent Operator and all complaints are promptly dealt with.

FOOD AND DRUGS

FOOD PREMISES

The total number of premises in the Borough concerned with the manufacture preparation, storage or sale of food, is 108. These can be classified as follows:-

Cakes and restaurants	7
Bakehouses	3
Cake shops	4
Confectioners	16
Greengrocers	4
Grocers and general stores	26
Butchers	7
Fishmongers	3
Public houses	18
Hotels	5
Guest houses	1
Wine merchants	3
Clubs	3
Supermarkets	4
Wholesalers	4

In addition to the above, markets are held on the Market Hill. A fishmonger, grocer, greengrocers and confectioners attend regularly on Thursdays and Saturdays.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

The following visits for inspection or re-inspection were made:-

Hygiene regulations/byelaws - shops	220
Hygiene regulations/byelaws - stalls and vehicles	68
Hygiene regulations/byelaws - personal hygiene	40
Ice cream premises	4
Food inspection - other	91

SHOP ACT

Inspection of shop premises during the year indicated that in the main the basic requirements of the Shops Act were met.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

At the end of the year there were registered:-

Offices	60
Retail shops	134
Wholesale shops, warehouses	9
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens.	11
Fuel storage depots	4

Many visits were made to these premises to ensure that the provisions of the Act were enforced and after service of informal notices many defects were remedied.

The following visits were made under the above Act - 284

It is felt that many smaller premises are not registering under this Act and in the future it is hoped to conduct a survey of unregistered premises so as to complete registration.

FACTORIES ACT

Details of the inspection under the Factories Acts are recorded below. The number of factories on the register totalled 68

1. Inspections for purpose of provisions as to Health (including inspections by the Public Health Inspector)

	No on register	Number of		
		Inspections	Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
1. Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4&6 are to be enforced by the Local Authorities.	3	2	1	-
2. Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	60	13	4	-
3. Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers premises)	5	2	-	-
Total	68	17	5	-

2. Cases in which defects were found - 5

Outwork - Sections 133 and 134

	Section 133			Section 134		
ure of rk	No of Outworkers in August list required by Section 133 (1) (c)	No of cases of default in sending lists to Council	No of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No of instances of work in unwhole some premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
ring parel	6	1	-	-	-	-
ing etc aning l shing	-	-	-	-	-	-
tains l niture ngings	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	6	1	-	-	-	-

	-	-	-	-	-	-
	6	1	-	-	-	-

	-	-	-	-	-	-
	6	1	-	-	-	-